

WHAT DO ANIMALS EAT?

Grade Level	Ideal for Kindergarten Appropriate for ages 5-9	
Exhibition	<i>Mammals of Asia</i>	
Time	30 – 45 minutes	

Overview

In this exploration, students will observe dioramas that depict Asian mammals in different habitats. Students will investigate the relationship between an animal and its environment by identifying possible food sources in each habitat.

Guiding Questions

What kinds of foods do different animals eat?
What kinds of foods are available in different habitats?

Key Words

Carnivore - an animal that eats other animals
Habitat - the natural home or environment of a plant or animal
Herbivore - an animal that eats plants
Omnivore - an animal that eats both plants and other animals

Connections to Standards

Next Generation Science Standard

Disciplinary Core Idea ESS3.A: Natural Resources

Living things need water, air, and resources from the land, and they live in places that have the things they need. Humans use natural resources for everything they do. (K-ESS3-1)

Common Core State Standard for Writing

W.K.8: With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

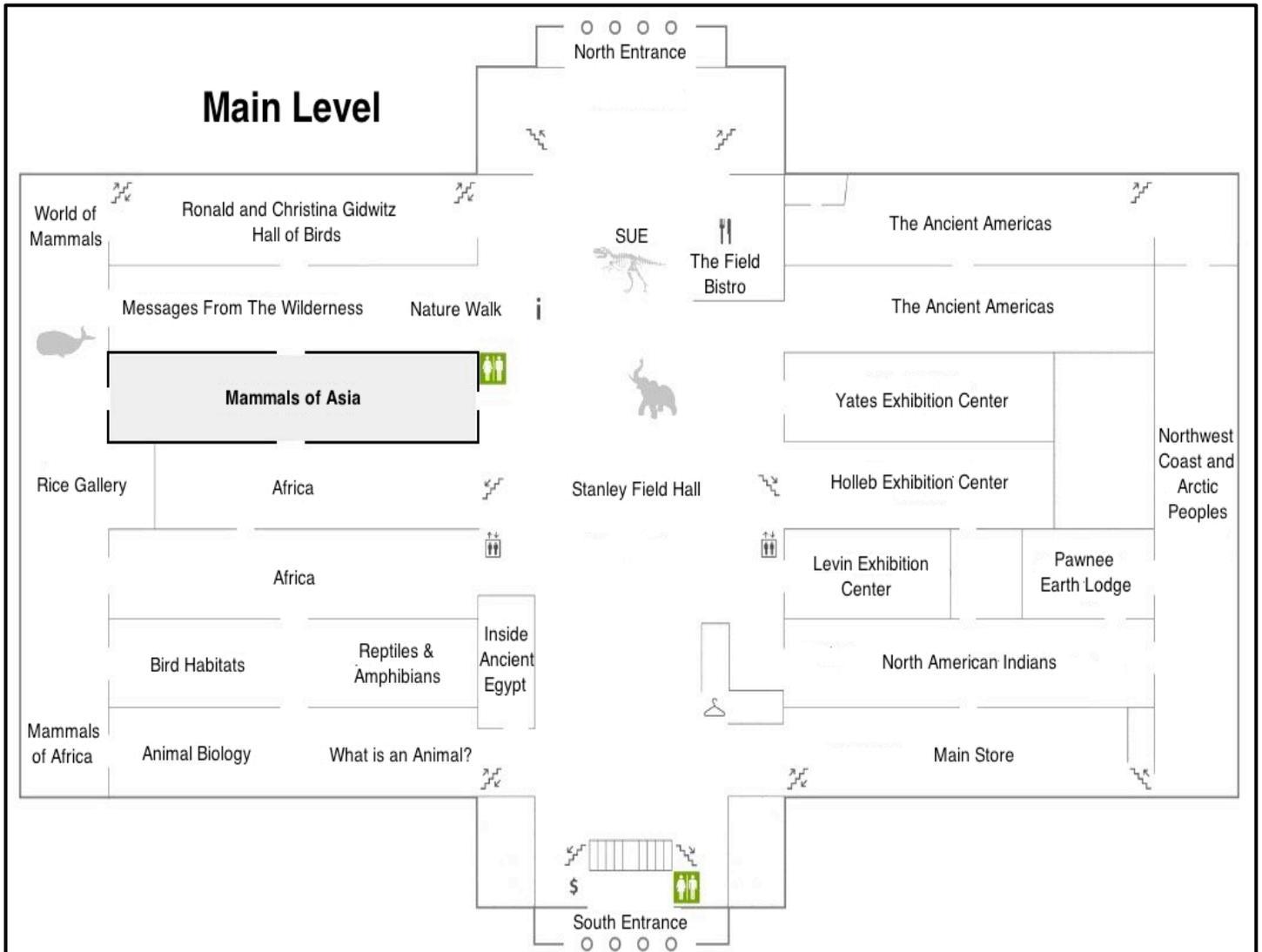
Trip Tip: When students first enter an exhibition, encourage them to look around freely before asking them to concentrate on completing this guide. Becoming familiar with their learning space will help students focus.

WHAT DO ANIMALS EAT? Chaperone Guide

Map

Exhibition:

Mammals of Asia (Main Level)



If you have extra time, visit these related exhibitions:

World of Mammals (Main Level)

What Is an Animal? (Main Level)

WHAT DO ANIMALS EAT?

Chaperone Guide

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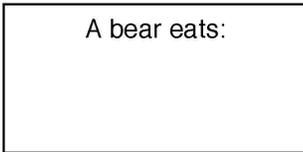
Student Guide

NAME _____

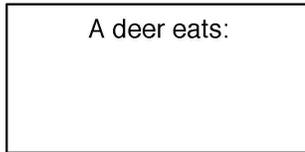
Think (before you explore)

What do these animals eat? **Draw** the food in the boxes below.

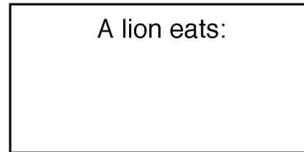
A bear eats:



A deer eats:



A lion eats:

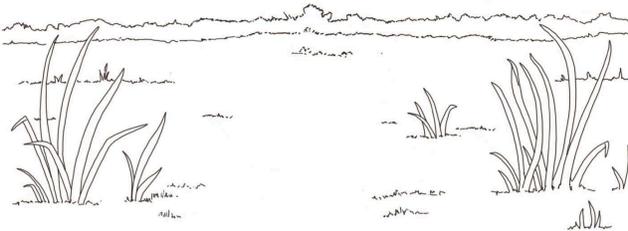


At The Field Museum you will observe animals in their natural habitats and think about what different animals eat.

Observe and Explain (in the exhibition)

Travel to the *Mammals of Asia* exhibition on the **Main Level**. Then, complete the activity below.

Find an animal that lives near tall grasses. **Draw** it.

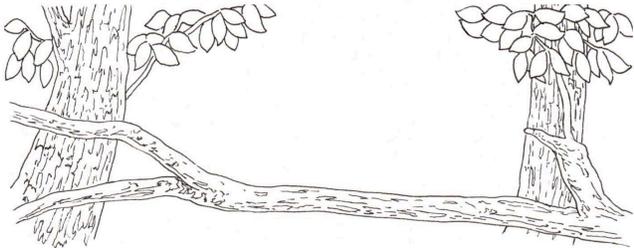


What is its name? _____

Draw and name what this animal eats.



Find an animal that lives in trees. **Draw** it.



What is its name? _____

Draw and name what this animal eats.



Trip Tip: Before you begin, find a bench or a spot on the floor. Give the students an overview of this activity and ask the group the **Think** question.

Trip Tip: The animals in the **Think** question represent an example of an omnivore (bear), herbivore (deer), and carnivore (lion).

Trip Tip: Make sure students understand that they can draw animals over the background images.

Trip Tip: In the exhibition there are four dioramas showing animals in trees: proboscis monkeys, gibbons, orangutans, and leopards.

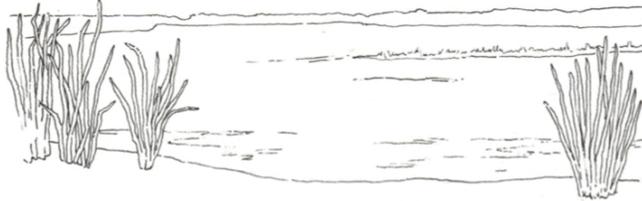
Trip Tip: Encourage students to be specific about the food that the animal eats. For example, instead of writing "plants", write down what type of plant the animal might eat, or include details about what the plant looks like.

Trip Tip: If you're not sure what an animal eats, note that most animals with hooves, horns, or antlers eat plants. Most animals with claws eat meat. One exception to this rule is the panda – it has claws but eats mostly plants.

WHAT DO ANIMALS EAT?

Chaperone Guide

Find an animal that lives near water. **Draw** it.



What is its name? _____

Draw and name what this animal eats.

Find an animal that lives in the mountains. **Draw** it.



What is its name? _____

Draw and name what this animal eats.

Find an animal that you like. **Draw** the animal and its habitat.

What is its name? _____

Draw and name what this animal eats.

Guiding Question:

What kinds of plants and animals live in the water that may be eaten for food?

Trip Tip: If you're not sure what a specific Asian animal eats, think about the diet of a familiar animal that may look similar. For example, the barasingha looks like a deer, and both of these animals are herbivores.

Trip Tip: Encourage students to find a different animal in the exhibition.

Trip Tip: Find a quiet spot in the Museum to discuss the **Share and Compare** ideas, or ask students to draw and write answers to these questions when they return to school.

Share and Compare (after you explore)

Which animal did you like best? Why did you like this animal the most? Tell a friend about this animal!

Trip Tip: Have the students gather in an open space where they can spread out (near the **East Entrance** is a great space). Divide the space into three parts – one part for “eats plants”, another for “eats animals,” and a third for “eats both plants and animals”. Say the name of one of the animals you saw today and then have the students move to one of the three areas, depending on what they think that animal eats.

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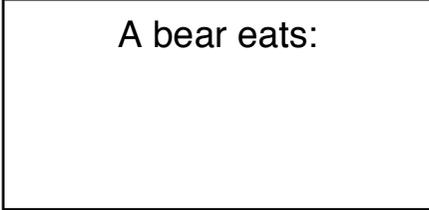
Student Guide

NAME _____

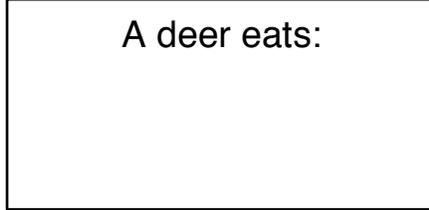
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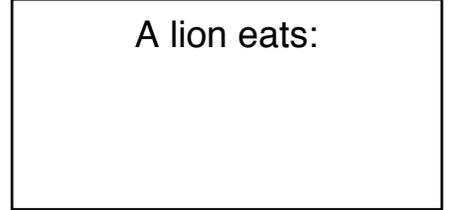
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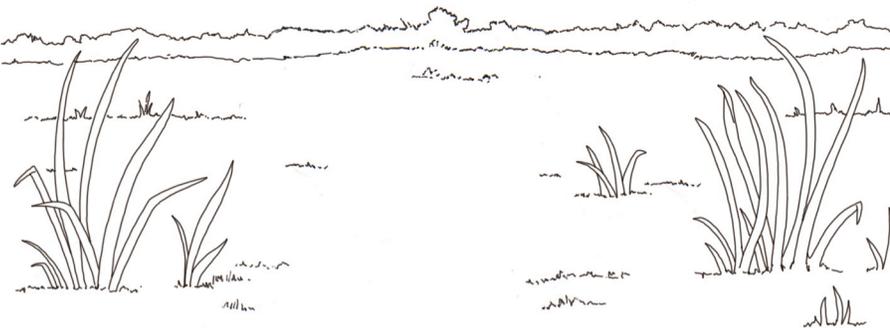


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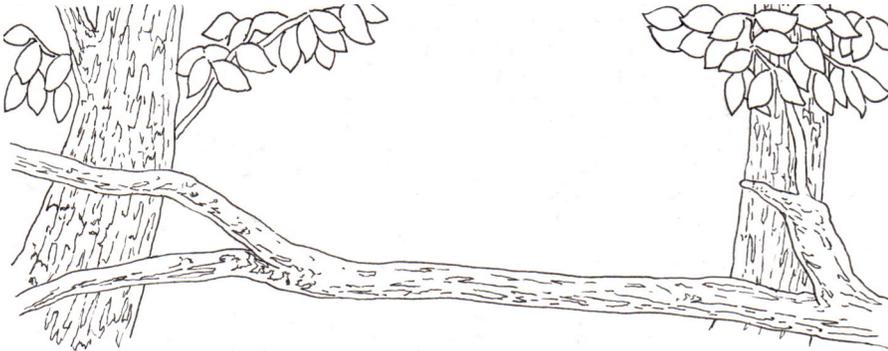
Find an animal that lives near tall grasses. **Draw** it.



What is its name? _____

Draw and **name** what this animal eats.

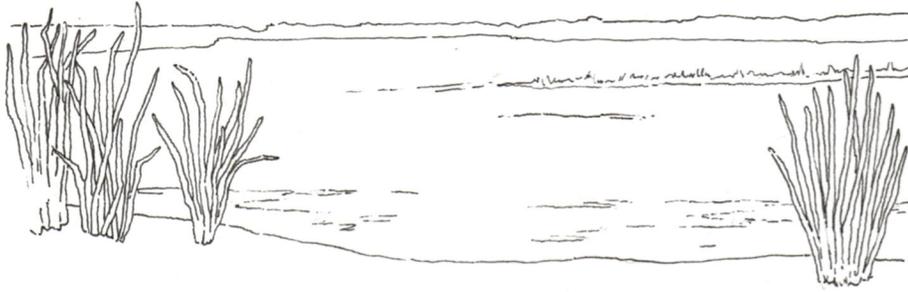
Find an animal that lives in trees. **Draw** it.



What is its name? _____

Draw and **name** what this animal eats.

Find an animal that lives near water. **Draw** it.



What is its name? _____

Draw and **name** what this animal eats.

Find an animal that lives in the mountains. **Draw** it.



What is its name? _____

Draw and **name** what this animal eats.

Find an animal that you like. **Draw** the animal and its habitat.

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Share and Compare (after you explore)

Which animal did you like best? Why did you like this animal the most? Tell a friend about this animal!